

ENGLISH PLUS

WITH
ANSWER
KEY

PRACTICE WORKSHEETS



MYTHS AND LEGENDS

GREEK MYTHS

Myths and Legends | Greek Myths

Comprehension

1. *Put the headings where they belong in the text.*

[1]

The **ancient** Greeks had many myths or stories about gods and heroes. These gods and heroes acted very much like human beings, though on a grander scale. They fell in love, and they **quarreled**.

Myths try to explain things. Some myths are stories about how the universe, the world, and human beings were created. Other myths offer explanations for why such things as war, earthquakes, and floods happen.

Myths are such great stories that they get told over and over. We still read the Greek myths today.

[2]

According to Greek myths, there was nothing but emptiness at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave birth to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and Uranus had 12 children called Titans.

Uranus was afraid that the Titans would take his power. He was right to be afraid. The youngest Titan, Cronus, killed his father. Cronus then tried to kill his own children by **swallowing** them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, Zeus, **overcame** Cronus and helped the other children to escape. Zeus's brothers were the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, Demeter, and Hestia.

[3]

The new gods-the children of Cronus-were known as the Olympians because their home was on Mount Olympus.

Zeus was king of the gods. Hera was his queen. Zeus's children included the twins Artemis, goddess of hunting, and the sun god Apollo.

Zeus was also father of the three Fates, who controlled human life and decided when people should die. Even Zeus could not make them change their decisions.

[4]

Not all the gods lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon had his own kingdom of the sea. Sailors had to be careful not to **offend** him. If angry, he might start a storm.

Hades ruled the underworld—a place beneath Earth where the souls of the dead go. Hades **kidnapped** Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, goddess of grain. Demeter was too busy searching for her child to look after the harvest, and people began to **starve**.

Zeus ordered Hades to let Persephone go, but she had eaten a little of Hades's food. Because of that, she had to spend part of every year in the underworld. When Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and nothing grows. When she returns, spring comes with her.

There are different versions of this myth and of other Greek myths. But most of the stories give the same picture of the Greek gods. The gods were passionate and often fought with each other. They also took part in human battles.

[5]

The Trojan War was a major event in Greek mythology. The Greeks may actually have fought the Trojans in a long war. Myths that have a **basis** in history are sometimes called legends.

According to Greek legend, a Trojan prince named Paris was asked to decide which goddess was most beautiful, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. Paris chose Aphrodite. She gave him the lovely Helen as a reward.

Helen was already married to a Greek prince. When Paris ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on Troy, where the Trojans lived. The fighting lasted ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to build a giant wooden horse. The Trojans took the horse within their strong city walls without realizing that Greek soldiers were hiding inside it. At night, these soldiers came out of the horse. They opened the gates to Troy and let the rest of the Greek army inside to destroy the city.

A long poem, the Iliad, describes the Trojan War. A second poem, the Odyssey, tells the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus after the war was over. The writer of both poems is supposed to be Homer, a poet who probably lived around the 8th century B.C. However, the legends are much older than that. Greek storytellers passed on the **tales** for hundreds of years before they were written down.

[6]

Some **creatures** in Greek myths were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a monster with many heads. Other creatures were half-human and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

Heroes were the only people who could kill the monsters. Greek heroes were usually the children of gods and humans. Heracles was a son of Zeus. He fought the Hydra and many other creatures.

Theseus was a hero who tracked the Minotaur through a maze and killed him. No one else had ever found their way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

[7]

Ancient Greek writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great plays. Their plays **influenced** later writers.

After the ancient Romans became the major power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the Greek gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. Roman statues, paintings, and poetry all used stories from Greek myths.

Later, European artists looked back to Greece for inspiration. Famous painters and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. Musicians and writers took ideas from Greek myths. Even today, you can find the ancient stories in movies and computer games.

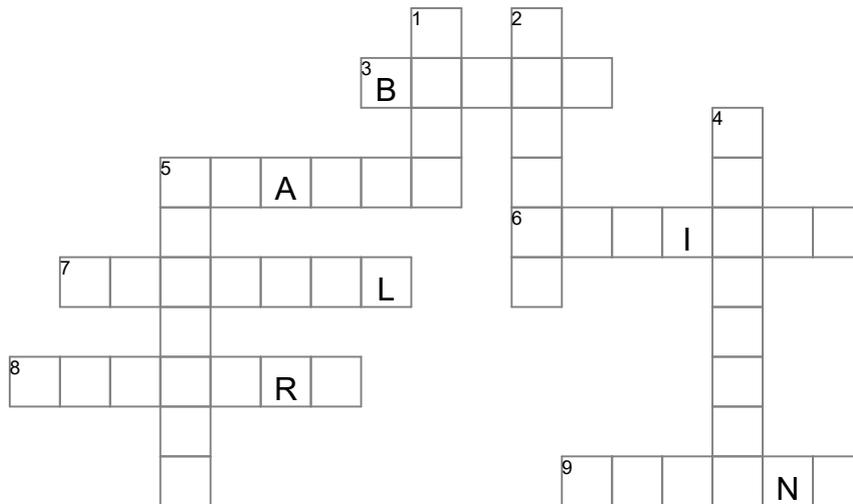
- A. THE GODS OF OLYMPUS
- B. THE TROJAN WAR
- C. GODS OF THE SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD
- D. MONSTERS AND HEROES
- E. GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY
- F. GREEK MYTHS
- G. HOW EVERYTHING BEGAN

Key Vocabulary Practice

For each question below a number of similar words appear, but only one is spelled correctly and matches the clue that is provided. Write the letter of the correctly spelled word in the space by the question number.

2. ___ a. BASIG b. BASISE c. BASIS d. BASIC
The _____ of something is its starting point or an important part of it from which it can be further developed.
3. ___ a. OFEND b. OFFYND c. OFFENR d. OFFEND
If you _____ someone, you say or do something rude which upsets or embarrasses them.
4. ___ a. OVIRCOME b. OVERCOME c. OVERCOMEE d. OVERCOM
If you _____ a problem or a feeling, you successfully deal with it and control it.
5. ___ a. TAL b. TALLE c. TALEE d. TALE
A _____ is a story, often involving magic or exciting events.

6. ___ a. KIDNAP b. KIDNNAP c. KEDNAP d. KIDNAPE
 To _____ someone is to take them away illegally and by force, and usually to hold them prisoner in order to demand something from their family, employer, or government.
7. ___ a. SWALLO b. SWALLOU c. SWALLOW d. SWALLOW
 If you _____ something, you cause it to go from your mouth down into your stomach.
8. ___ a. DICLARE b. DECLARE c. DCLAR d. DECLARRE
 If you _____ that something is true, you say that it is true in a firm, deliberate way. You can also _____ an attitude or intention.
9. ___ a. QUARRELE b. QUARRELL c. QUARREL d. QAURREL
 A _____ is an angry argument between two or more friends or family members.
10. ___ a. STAVVE b. STARV c. STARVEE d. STARVE
 If people _____, they suffer greatly from lack of food which sometimes leads to their death.
11. ___ a. ANSIENT b. ANCIANT c. ANCIEQT d. ANCIENT
 _____ means very old or having existed for a long time.
12. **Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct words in the numbered grid below.**



ACROSS

3. The _____ for something is a fact or argument that you can use to prove or justify it.
5. To _____ someone means not to give them any food.
6. _____ means belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire.
7. _____s between countries or groups of people are disagreements, which may be diplomatic or include fighting.
8. If you _____ something, you state officially and formally that it exists or is the case.

DOWN

1. An old wives' _____ is a traditional belief, especially one which is incorrect.
2. _____ or a _____ is the crime of taking someone away by force.
4. If you are _____ by a feeling or event, it is so strong or has such a strong effect that you cannot think clearly.
5. If you _____, you make a movement in your throat as if you are _____ing something, often because you are nervous or frightened.

9. To _____ against a law, rule, or principle means to break it.

Choose the best option the completes the sentences below:

13. ____ If you survive a dangerous or frightening experience and so are able to tell people about it afterwards, you can say that you lived to tell the _____.
a. ancient b. starve c. tale d. swallow e. basis
14. ____ The _____s are the people of an old civilization, especially classical Greece or Rome.
a. offend b. quarrel c. ancient d. declare e. overcome
15. ____ If you _____ goods that you have bought in another country or money that you have earned, you say how much you have bought or earned so that you can pay tax on it.
a. tale b. overcome c. kidnap d. declare e. tale
16. ____ If a person or thing is _____d of something that they need, they are suffering because they are not getting enough of it.
a. offend b. quarrel c. kidnap d. basis e. starve
17. ____ If you say that you have no _____ with someone or something, you mean that you do not disagree with them.
a. quarrel b. declare c. swallow d. ancient e. starve
18. ____ If you _____ your pride, you decide to do something even though you think it will cause you to lose some respect.
a. basis b. quarrel c. swallow d. kidnap e. tale
19. ____ If something is done on a particular _____, it is done according to that method, system, or principle.
a. ancient b. offend c. overcome d. basis e. declare
20. ____ If you are _____ by smoke or a poisonous gas, you become very ill or die from breathing it in.
a. swallow b. starve c. quarrel d. overcome e. swallow
21. ____ to carry off and hold (a person), usually for ransom
a. starve b. offend c. kidnap d. tale e. basis
22. ____ If someone _____s, they commit a crime.
a. swallow b. declare c. quarrel d. ancient e. offend

23. Find and connect the trail of letters for each word. The trails can wander up, down, left, right, and diagonally.

T	E	Z	U	A	N	J	I	S	R	S	K	S	I	S	B	S	M	W	S
A	L	Q	E	A	R	D	U	K	S	W	U	K	B	A	E	L	O	M	T
T	C	Q	F	P	G	R	E	L	V	U	W	I	L	T	W	C	L	M	Y
N	C	G	S	O	D	G	X	L	H	B	U	R	B	K	E	E	A	E	Y
A	T	Z	T	K	H	G	G	B	M	M	Z	G	X	P	D	N	R	F	O
S	R	V	N	G	K	X	F	X	H	O	H	Y	T	O	A	D	E	F	I
M	E	E	J	E	D	M	T	U	M	J	C	E	V	S	K	M	N	I	P
G	S	L	I	Q	T	S	I	G	E	R	R	J	A	R	W	L	L	D	D
W	A	G	C	K	Y	T	B	S	J	A	G	L	N	W	D	U	L	A	B
I	Z	F	N	V	R	E	A	R	C	V	V	I	M	P	I	Q	O	W	G
W	J	G	A	Y	Q	M	Q	T	G	T	M	W	S	U	F	W	F	P	S
O	M	Y	I	F	V	F	S	W	Y	G	J	X	K	X	V	H	A	U	O

- to carry off and hold (a person), usually for ransom
- _____ means very old or having existed for a long time.
- If you _____ goods that you have bought in another country or money that you have earned, you say how much you have bought or earned so that you can pay tax on it.
- If something is done on a particular _____, it is done according to that method, system, or principle.
- If you _____ your pride, you decide to do something even though you think it will cause you to lose some respect.
- If someone _____s, they commit a crime.
- If you say that you have no _____ with someone or something, you mean that you do not disagree with them.
- An old wives' _____ is a traditional belief, especially one which is incorrect.
- If you are _____ by smoke or a poisonous gas, you become very ill or die from breathing it in.
- If people _____, they suffer greatly from lack of food which sometimes leads to their death.

Listening Practice | Intermediate

24. Fill in the blanks while you listen to the episode.

GREEK MYTHS

The **ancient** Greeks had many myths or [1] _____ about gods and heroes. These gods and heroes acted very much like [2] _____ beings, though on a grander scale. They fell in love, and they [3] _____.

Myths try to explain things. Some myths are stories about how the universe, the world, and human beings were created. Other myths offer explanations for why such [4] _____ as war, earthquakes, and floods happen.

Myths are such [5] _____ stories that they get told over and over. We still read the Greek myths today.

HOW EVERYTHING BEGAN

According to [6] _____ myths, there was [7] _____ but emptiness at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave birth to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and Uranus had 12 children called Titans.

[8] _____ was afraid that the Titans would take his [9] _____. He was right to be afraid. The youngest [10] _____, Cronus, killed his father. Cronus then tried to kill his own children by **swallowing** them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, Zeus, **overcame** Cronus and helped the other children to escape. Zeus's brothers were the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, Demeter, and Hestia.

THE GODS OF OLYMPUS

The new gods-the children of Cronus-were known as the Olympians because their home was on Mount Olympus.

Zeus was king of the gods. Hera was his queen. Zeus's children included the twins Artemis, goddess of [11] _____, and the sun god Apollo.

Zeus was also father of the [12] _____ Fates, who controlled human life and decided when people should die. Even Zeus could not make them [13] _____ their decisions.

GODS OF THE SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD

Not all the gods lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon had his own kingdom of the sea. Sailors had to be

careful not to **offend** him. If angry, he might start a storm.

Hades ruled the underworld—a place [14] _____ Earth where the souls of the dead go.

Hades [15] _____ Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, goddess of grain. Demeter was too busy searching for her child to look after the harvest, and people began to **starve**.

Zeus ordered Hades to let Persephone go, but she had eaten a [16] _____ of Hades's food. Because of that, she had to spend part of every year in the [17] _____. When Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and nothing grows. When she returns, spring comes with her.

[18] _____ are different versions of this myth and of other Greek myths. But most of the stories give the same picture of the Greek gods. The gods were passionate and often fought with each other. They also took part in human battles.

THE TROJAN WAR

The Trojan War was a major event in Greek [19] _____. The Greeks may actually have fought the Trojans in a long war. Myths that have a **basis** in history are sometimes called [20] _____.

According to Greek legend, a Trojan prince named Paris was asked to decide which goddess was most beautiful, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. Paris [21] _____ Aphrodite. She gave him the lovely [22] _____ as a reward.

[23] _____ was already married to a Greek prince. When Paris ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on Troy, [24] _____ the Trojans lived. The fighting lasted ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to build a [25] _____ wooden horse. The Trojans took the horse [26] _____ their strong city walls [27] _____ realizing that Greek soldiers were hiding inside it. At night, [28] _____ [29] _____ came out of the horse. They opened the gates to Troy and let the rest of the Greek army inside to destroy the city.

A long poem, the Iliad, describes the [30] _____ War. A second poem, the Odyssey, tells the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus after the war was over. The writer of both [31] _____ is supposed to be Homer, a poet who probably lived around the 8th century B.C. However, the legends are much older than that. Greek storytellers passed on the **tales** for hundreds of years before they were written down.

[32] _____ AND HEROES

Some [33] _____ in Greek myths were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a monster with

many heads. Other [34] _____ were half-human and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

[35] _____ were the only people who could kill the monsters. Greek heroes were usually the children of gods and humans. Heracles was a son of Zeus. He fought the Hydra and many other creatures.

Theseus was a hero who tracked the Minotaur through a maze and killed him. No one else had ever found their way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

Ancient Greek writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great plays. Their [36] _____ **influenced** later writers.

After the ancient Romans became the major power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the [37] _____ gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. Roman statues, paintings, and [38] _____ all used stories from Greek myths.

Later, European artists looked back to Greece for inspiration. Famous painters and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. [39] _____ and writers took ideas from Greek myths. Even today, you can find the ancient stories in movies and [40] _____ [41] _____.

- A. three
- B. hunting
- C. soldiers
- D. poetry
- E. Greek
- F. stories
- G. quarreled
- H. little
- I. poems
- J. within
- K. where
- L. plays
- M. underworld
- N. change
- O. chose
- P. power
- Q. Titan
- R. giant
- S. MONSTERS
- T. these
- U. without
- V. human
- W. beneath
- X. Heroes
- Y. nothing
- Z. Uranus
- AA. creatures
- BB. games
- CC. Helen
- DD. Helen
- EE. great
- FF. creatures
- GG. There
- HH. Trojan
- II. legends
- JJ. Greek
- KK. computer
- LL. things
- MM. kidnapped
- NN. Musicians
- OO. mythology

Listening Practice | Advanced

25. Fill in the blanks while you listen to the episode.

[1] _____ **MYTHS**

The **ancient** Greeks had many [2] _____ or stories [3] _____ gods and heroes. These gods and heroes acted very much like human [4] _____, though on a grander scale. They fell in love, and they **quarreled**.

Myths try to explain things. Some myths are stories about how the universe, the world, and human beings were created. [5] _____ [6] _____ offer explanations for why such things as war, [7] _____, and floods [8] _____.

Myths are such great stories that they get told over and over. We still read the Greek [9] _____ today.

HOW [10] _____ [11] _____

According to [12] _____ myths, [13] _____ was nothing but [14] _____ at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave birth to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and Uranus had 12 children [15] _____ [16] _____.

Uranus was [17] _____ that the Titans would take his power. He was [18] _____ to be afraid. The youngest Titan, [19] _____, killed his [20] _____. Cronus then [21] _____ to kill his own children by [22] _____ them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, Zeus, **overcame** [23] _____ and [24] _____ the [25] _____ children to [26] _____. Zeus's [27] _____ were the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, Demeter, and Hestia.

THE GODS OF [28] _____

The new [29] _____ children of Cronus-were [30] _____ as the Olympians because their home was on Mount Olympus.

Zeus was king of the gods. Hera was his queen. Zeus's children included the twins Artemis, goddess of hunting, and the sun god [31] _____.

Zeus was also father of the [32] _____ Fates, who controlled [33] _____ life and decided when people should die. Even Zeus [34] _____ not make them change

[35] _____ decisions.

GODS OF THE SEA AND THE [36] _____

Not all the gods lived on Mount [37] _____. [38] _____ had his own kingdom of the sea. [39] _____ had to be careful not to **offend** him. If [40] _____, he might start a storm.

Hades [41] _____ the underworld-a [42] _____ beneath Earth [43] _____ the souls of the dead go. Hades **kidnapped** [44] _____, the daughter of [45] _____, goddess of grain. Demeter was too busy searching for her child to look [46] _____ the harvest, and [47] _____ began to [48] _____.

Zeus ordered Hades to let [49] _____ go, but she had eaten a [50] _____ of Hades's food. [51] _____ of that, she had to [52] _____ part of every year in the [53] _____. When Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and nothing grows. When she returns, [54] _____ comes with her.

There are [55] _____ versions of this myth and of [56] _____ Greek myths. But most of the stories give the same [57] _____ of the [58] _____ gods. The gods were [59] _____ and often [60] _____ with each other. They also took part in human [61] _____.

THE TROJAN WAR

The Trojan War was a major event in Greek mythology. The Greeks may [62] _____ have fought the [63] _____ in a long war. [64] _____ that have a [65] _____ in history are sometimes called [66] _____.

According to Greek legend, a [67] _____ prince named Paris was [68] _____ to [69] _____ which goddess was most beautiful, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. [70] _____ [71] _____ Aphrodite. She gave him the lovely Helen as a reward.

[72] _____ was already married to a Greek prince. When [73] _____ ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on Troy, [74] _____ the Trojans lived. The fighting [75] _____ ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to build a giant wooden horse. The [76] _____ took the [77] _____ within [78] _____ [79] _____ city walls [80] _____ [81] _____ that Greek

[82] _____ were hiding inside it. At night, these soldiers came out of the [83] _____. They opened the [84] _____ to Troy and let the rest of the Greek army [85] _____ to destroy the city.

A long poem, the Iliad, [86] _____ the [87] _____ War. A second poem, the Odyssey, [88] _____ the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus after the war was over. The writer of both [89] _____ is supposed to be Homer, a poet who probably lived [90] _____ the 8th century B.C. However, the legends are much older than that. Greek storytellers [91] _____ on the [92] _____ for hundreds of years [93] _____ they were [94] _____ down.

[95] _____ **AND HEROES**

Some **creatures** in Greek myths were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a [96] _____ with many heads. Other [97] _____ were half-human and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

Heroes were the only people who could kill the monsters. Greek [98] _____ were usually the children of gods and humans. Heracles was a son of Zeus. He fought the [99] _____ and many [100] _____ [101] _____.

Theseus was a hero who tracked the [102] _____ through a maze and [103] _____ him. No one else had ever found [104] _____ way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

Ancient [105] _____ writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great [106] _____. Their [107] _____ **influenced** later writers.

[108] _____ the ancient [109] _____ became the [110] _____ power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the [111] _____ gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. [112] _____ statues, paintings, and [113] _____ all used [114] _____ from [115] _____ [116] _____.

Later, European artists looked back to Greece for [117] _____. Famous [118] _____ and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. [119] _____ and writers took ideas from Greek [120] _____. Even today, you can find the ancient [121] _____ in [122] _____ and computer games.

Spelling Practice

26. In each line of text below there is one word that has been misspelled. Circle the misspelled word and then write the correct spelling of the word on the line on the right side of the page.

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GODS OF THA SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD

Not all the gods lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon had his awn kingdom of the sea. Sailors had to be careful knot to **offend** him. If angry,

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61.
62.
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64.

MONSTERS AND HEVOES 65.

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Theseus was a hero who tracked the Minotaur through a maze and killed him. No one else had ever found their way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

72.

73.

74.

GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

75.

Ancient Greek writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great plays. Their plays **influenced** later writers.

76.

77.

After the ancient Romans became the major power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the Greek gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. Roman statues, paintings, and poetry all used stories from Greek myths.

78.

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Later, European artists looked back to Greece for inspiration. Famous painters and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. Musicians and writers took ideas from Greek myths. Even today, you can find the ancient stories in movies and computer games.

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84.

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Myths and Legends | Greek Myths

Comprehension

1. *Put the headings where they belong in the text.*

[1] GREEK MYTHS

The **ancient** Greeks had many myths or stories about gods and heroes. These gods and heroes acted very much like human beings, though on a grander scale. They fell in love, and they **quarreled**.

Myths try to explain things. Some myths are stories about how the universe, the world, and human beings were created. Other myths offer explanations for why such things as war, earthquakes, and floods happen.

Myths are such great stories that they get told over and over. We still read the Greek myths today.

[2] HOW EVERYTHING BEGAN

According to Greek myths, there was nothing but emptiness at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave birth to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and Uranus had 12 children called Titans.

Uranus was afraid that the Titans would take his power. He was right to be afraid. The youngest Titan, Cronus, killed his father. Cronus then tried to kill his own children by **swallowing** them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, Zeus, **overcame** Cronus and helped the other children to escape. Zeus's brothers were the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, Demeter, and Hestia.

[3] THE GODS OF OLYMPUS

The new gods-the children of Cronus-were known as the Olympians because their home was on Mount Olympus.

Zeus was king of the gods. Hera was his queen. Zeus's children included the twins Artemis, goddess of hunting, and the sun god Apollo.

Zeus was also father of the three Fates, who controlled human life and decided when people should die. Even Zeus could not make them change their decisions.

[4] GODS OF THE SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD

Not all the gods lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon had his own kingdom of the sea. Sailors had to be careful not to **offend** him. If angry, he might start a storm.

Hades ruled the underworld—a place beneath Earth where the souls of the dead go. Hades **kidnapped** Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, goddess of grain. Demeter was too busy searching for her child to look after the harvest, and people began to **starve**.

Zeus ordered Hades to let Persephone go, but she had eaten a little of Hades's food. Because of that, she had to spend part of every year in the underworld. When Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and nothing grows. When she returns, spring comes with her.

There are different versions of this myth and of other Greek myths. But most of the stories give the same picture of the Greek gods. The gods were passionate and often fought with each other. They also took part in human battles.

[5] THE TROJAN WAR

The Trojan War was a major event in Greek mythology. The Greeks may actually have fought the Trojans in a long war. Myths that have a **basis** in history are sometimes called legends.

According to Greek legend, a Trojan prince named Paris was asked to decide which goddess was most beautiful, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. Paris chose Aphrodite. She gave him the lovely Helen as a reward.

Helen was already married to a Greek prince. When Paris ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on Troy, where the Trojans lived. The fighting lasted ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to build a giant wooden horse. The Trojans took the horse within their strong city walls without realizing that Greek soldiers were hiding inside it. At night, these soldiers came out of the horse. They opened the gates to Troy and let the rest of the Greek army inside to destroy the city.

A long poem, the Iliad, describes the Trojan War. A second poem, the Odyssey, tells the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus after the war was over. The writer of both poems is supposed to be Homer, a poet who probably lived around the 8th century B.C. However, the legends are much older than that. Greek storytellers passed on the **tales** for hundreds of years before they were written down.

[6] MONSTERS AND HEROES

Some **creatures** in Greek myths were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a monster with many heads. Other creatures were half-human and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

Heroes were the only people who could kill the monsters. Greek heroes were usually the children of gods and humans. Heracles was a son of Zeus. He fought the Hydra and many other creatures.

Theseus was a hero who tracked the Minotaur through a maze and killed him. No one else had ever found their way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

[7] GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

Ancient Greek writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great plays. Their plays **influenced** later writers.

After the ancient Romans became the major power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the Greek gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. Roman statues, paintings, and poetry all used stories from Greek myths.

Later, European artists looked back to Greece for inspiration. Famous painters and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. Musicians and writers took ideas from Greek myths. Even today, you can find the ancient stories in movies and computer games.

- A. THE GODS OF OLYMPUS
- B. THE TROJAN WAR
- C. GODS OF THE SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD
- D. MONSTERS AND HEROES
- E. GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY
- F. GREEK MYTHS
- G. HOW EVERYTHING BEGAN

Key Vocabulary Practice

For each question below a number of similar words appear, but only one is spelled correctly and matches the clue that is provided. Write the letter of the correctly spelled word in the space by the question number.

2. c a. BASIG b. BASISE c. BASIS d. BASIC
The _____ of something is its starting point or an important part of it from which it can be further developed.
3. d a. OFEND b. OFFYND c. OFFENR d. OFFEND
If you _____ someone, you say or do something rude which upsets or embarrasses them.
4. b a. OVIRCOME b. OVERCOME c. OVERCOMEE d. OVERCOM
If you _____ a problem or a feeling, you successfully deal with it and control it.
5. d a. TAL b. TALLE c. TALEE d. TALE
A _____ is a story, often involving magic or exciting events.

6. a a. KIDNAP b. KIDNNAP c. KEDNAP d. KIDNAPE
 To _____ someone is to take them away illegally and by force, and usually to hold them prisoner in order to demand something from their family, employer, or government.
7. d a. SWALLO b. SWALLOU c. SWALLOW d. SWALLOW
 If you _____ something, you cause it to go from your mouth down into your stomach.
8. b a. DICLARE b. DECLARE c. DCLAR d. DECLARRE
 If you _____ that something is true, you say that it is true in a firm, deliberate way. You can also _____ an attitude or intention.
9. c a. QUARRELE b. QUARRELL c. QUARREL d. QAURREL
 A _____ is an angry argument between two or more friends or family members.
10. d a. STAVVE b. STARV c. STARVEE d. STARVE
 If people _____, they suffer greatly from lack of food which sometimes leads to their death.
11. d a. ANSIENT b. ANCIANT c. ANCIEQT d. ANCIENT
 _____ means very old or having existed for a long time.
12. **Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct words in the numbered grid below.**

ACROSS

- The _____ for something is a fact or argument that you can use to prove or justify it.
- To _____ someone means not to give them any food.
- _____ means belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire.
- _____s between countries or groups of people are disagreements, which may be diplomatic or include fighting.
- If you _____ something, you state officially and formally that it exists or is the case.

DOWN

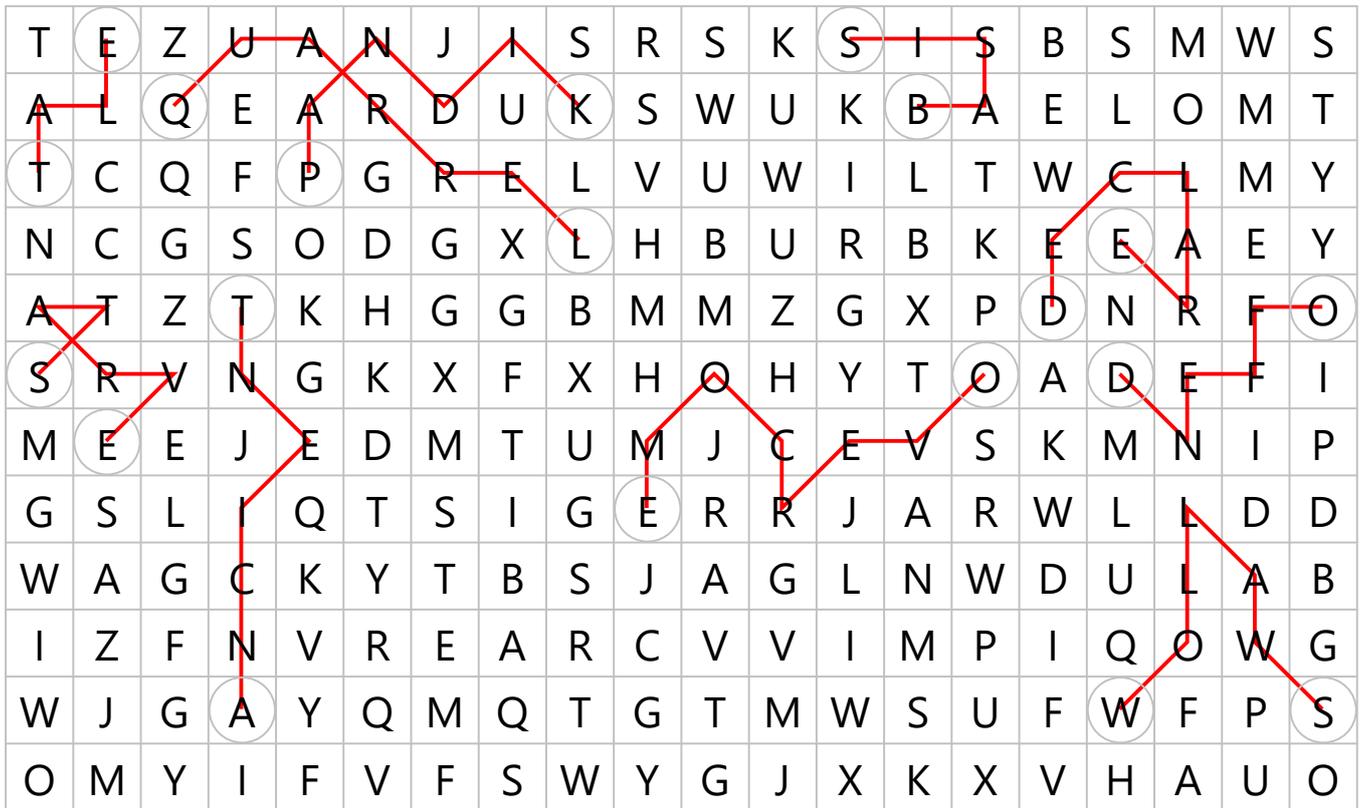
- An old wives' _____ is a traditional belief, especially one which is incorrect.
- _____ or a _____ is the crime of taking someone away by force.
- If you are _____ by a feeling or event, it is so strong or has such a strong effect that you cannot think clearly.
- If you _____, you make a movement in your throat as if you are _____ing something, often because you are nervous or frightened.

9. To _____ against a law, rule, or principle means to break it.

Choose the best option the completes the sentences below:

13. c If you survive a dangerous or frightening experience and so are able to tell people about it afterwards, you can say that you lived to tell the _____.
a. ancient b. starve c. tale d. swallow e. basis
14. c The _____s are the people of an old civilization, especially classical Greece or Rome.
a. offend b. quarrel c. ancient d. declare e. overcome
15. d If you _____ goods that you have bought in another country or money that you have earned, you say how much you have bought or earned so that you can pay tax on it.
a. tale b. overcome c. kidnap d. declare e. tale
16. e If a person or thing is _____d of something that they need, they are suffering because they are not getting enough of it.
a. offend b. quarrel c. kidnap d. basis e. starve
17. a If you say that you have no _____ with someone or something, you mean that you do not disagree with them.
a. quarrel b. declare c. swallow d. ancient e. starve
18. c If you _____ your pride, you decide to do something even though you think it will cause you to lose some respect.
a. basis b. quarrel c. swallow d. kidnap e. tale
19. d If something is done on a particular _____, it is done according to that method, system, or principle.
a. ancient b. offend c. overcome d. basis e. declare
20. d If you are _____ by smoke or a poisonous gas, you become very ill or die from breathing it in.
a. swallow b. starve c. quarrel d. overcome e. swallow
21. c _____ to carry off and hold (a person), usually for ransom
a. starve b. offend c. kidnap d. tale e. basis
22. e If someone _____s, they commit a crime.
a. swallow b. declare c. quarrel d. ancient e. offend

23. Find and connect the trail of letters for each word. The trails can wander up, down, left, right, and diagonally.



1. to carry off and hold (a person), usually for ransom
2. _____ means very old or having existed for a long time.
3. If you _____ goods that you have bought in another country or money that you have earned, you say how much you have bought or earned so that you can pay tax on it.
4. If something is done on a particular _____, it is done according to that method, system, or principle.
5. If you _____ your pride, you decide to do something even though you think it will cause you to lose some respect.
6. If someone _____s, they commit a crime.
7. If you say that you have no _____ with someone or something, you mean that you do not disagree with them.
8. An old wives' _____ is a traditional belief, especially one which is incorrect.
9. If you are _____ by smoke or a poisonous gas, you become very ill or die from breathing it in.
10. If people _____, they suffer greatly from lack of food which sometimes leads to their death.

Listening Practice | Intermediate

24. Fill in the blanks while you listen to the episode.

GREEK MYTHS

The **ancient** Greeks had many myths or [1] **stories** about gods and heroes. These gods and heroes acted very much like [2] **human** beings, though on a grander scale. They fell in love, and they [3] **quarreled**.

Myths try to explain things. Some myths are stories about how the universe, the world, and human beings were created. Other myths offer explanations for why such [4] **things** as war, earthquakes, and floods happen.

Myths are such [5] **great** stories that they get told over and over. We still read the Greek myths today.

HOW EVERYTHING BEGAN

According to [6] **Greek** myths, there was [7] **nothing** but emptiness at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave birth to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and Uranus had 12 children called Titans.

[8] **Uranus** was afraid that the Titans would take his [9] **power**. He was right to be afraid. The youngest [10] **Titan**, Cronus, killed his father. Cronus then tried to kill his own children by **swallowing** them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, Zeus, **overcame** Cronus and helped the other children to escape. Zeus's brothers were the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, Demeter, and Hestia.

THE GODS OF OLYMPUS

The new gods-the children of Cronus-were known as the Olympians because their home was on Mount Olympus.

Zeus was king of the gods. Hera was his queen. Zeus's children included the twins Artemis, goddess of [11] **hunting**, and the sun god Apollo.

Zeus was also father of the [12] **three** Fates, who controlled human life and decided when people should die. Even Zeus could not make them [13] **change** their decisions.

GODS OF THE SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD

Not all the gods lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon had his own kingdom of the sea. Sailors had to be

careful not to **offend** him. If angry, he might start a storm.

Hades ruled the underworld—a place [14] **beneath** Earth where the souls of the dead go. Hades [15] **kidnapped** Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, goddess of grain. Demeter was too busy searching for her child to look after the harvest, and people began to **starve**.

Zeus ordered Hades to let Persephone go, but she had eaten a [16] **little** of Hades's food. Because of that, she had to spend part of every year in the [17] **underworld**. When Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and nothing grows. When she returns, spring comes with her.

[18] **There** are different versions of this myth and of other Greek myths. But most of the stories give the same picture of the Greek gods. The gods were passionate and often fought with each other. They also took part in human battles.

THE TROJAN WAR

The Trojan War was a major event in Greek [19] **mythology**. The Greeks may actually have fought the Trojans in a long war. Myths that have a **basis** in history are sometimes called [20] **legends**.

According to Greek legend, a Trojan prince named Paris was asked to decide which goddess was most beautiful, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. Paris [21] **chose** Aphrodite. She gave him the lovely [22] **Helen** as a reward.

[23] **Helen** was already married to a Greek prince. When Paris ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on Troy, [24] **where** the Trojans lived. The fighting lasted ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to build a [25] **giant** wooden horse. The Trojans took the horse [26] **within** their strong city walls [27] **without** realizing that Greek soldiers were hiding inside it. At night, [28] **these** [29] **soldiers** came out of the horse. They opened the gates to Troy and let the rest of the Greek army inside to destroy the city.

A long poem, the Iliad, describes the [30] **Trojan** War. A second poem, the Odyssey, tells the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus after the war was over. The writer of both [31] **poems** is supposed to be Homer, a poet who probably lived around the 8th century B.C. However, the legends are much older than that. Greek storytellers passed on the **tales** for hundreds of years before they were written down.

[32] **MONSTERS** AND HEROES

Some [33] **creatures** in Greek myths were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a monster with

many heads. Other [34] **creatures** were half-human and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

[35] **Heroes** were the only people who could kill the monsters. Greek heroes were usually the children of gods and humans. Heracles was a son of Zeus. He fought the Hydra and many other creatures.

Theseus was a hero who tracked the Minotaur through a maze and killed him. No one else had ever found their way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

Ancient Greek writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great plays. Their [36] **plays** influenced later writers.

After the ancient Romans became the major power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the [37] **Greek** gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. Roman statues, paintings, and [38] **poetry** all used stories from Greek myths.

Later, European artists looked back to Greece for inspiration. Famous painters and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. [39] **Musicians** and writers took ideas from Greek myths. Even today, you can find the ancient stories in movies and [40] **computer** [41] **games**.

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. three | B. hunting | C. soldiers |
| D. poetry | E. Greek | F. stories |
| G. quarreled | H. little | I. poems |
| J. within | K. where | L. plays |
| M. underworld | N. change | O. chose |
| P. power | Q. Titan | R. giant |
| S. MONSTERS | T. these | U. without |
| V. human | W. beneath | X. Heroes |
| Y. nothing | Z. Uranus | AA. creatures |
| BB. games | CC. Helen | DD. Helen |
| EE. great | FF. creatures | GG. There |
| HH. Trojan | II. legends | JJ. Greek |
| KK. computer | LL. things | MM. kidnapped |
| NN. Musicians | OO. mythology | |

Listening Practice | Advanced

25. Fill in the blanks while you listen to the episode.

[1] GREEK MYTHS

The **ancient** Greeks had many [2] **myths** or stories [3] **about** gods and heroes. These gods and heroes acted very much like human [4] **beings**, though on a grander scale. They fell in love, and they **quarreled**.

Myths try to explain things. Some myths are stories about how the universe, the world, and human beings were created. [5] **Other** [6] **myths** offer explanations for why such things as war, [7] **earthquakes**, and floods [8] **happen**.

Myths are such great stories that they get told over and over. We still read the Greek [9] **myths** today.

HOW [10] EVERYTHING [11] BEGAN

According to [12] **Greek** myths, [13] **there** was nothing but [14] **emptiness** at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave birth to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and Uranus had 12 children [15] **called** [16] **Titans**.

Uranus was [17] **afraid** that the Titans would take his power. He was [18] **right** to be afraid. The youngest Titan, [19] **Cronus**, killed his [20] **father**. Cronus then [21] **tried** to kill his own children by [22] **swallowing** them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, Zeus, **overcame** [23] **Cronus** and [24] **helped** the [25] **other** children to [26] **escape**. Zeus's [27] **brothers** were the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, Demeter, and Hestia.

THE GODS OF [28] OLYMPUS

The new [29] **gods-the** children of Cronus-were [30] **known** as the Olympians because their home was on Mount Olympus.

Zeus was king of the gods. Hera was his queen. Zeus's children included the twins Artemis, goddess of hunting, and the sun god [31] **Apollo**.

Zeus was also father of the [32] **three** Fates, who controlled [33] **human** life and decided when people should die. Even Zeus [34] **could** not make them change

[35] **their** _____ decisions.

GODS OF THE SEA AND THE [36] **UNDERWORLD**

Not all the gods lived on Mount [37] **Olympus** _____. [38] **Poseidon** _____ had his own kingdom of the sea. [39] **Sailors** _____ had to be careful not to **offend** him. If [40] **angry** _____, he might start a storm.

Hades [41] **ruled** _____ the underworld—a [42] **place** _____ beneath Earth [43] **where** _____ the souls of the dead go. Hades **kidnapped** [44] **Persephone** _____, the daughter of [45] **Demeter** _____, goddess of grain. Demeter was too busy searching for her child to look [46] **after** _____ the harvest, and [47] **people** _____ began to [48] **starve** _____.

Zeus ordered Hades to let [49] **Persephone** _____ go, but she had eaten a [50] **little** _____ of Hades's food. [51] **Because** _____ of that, she had to [52] **spend** _____ part of every year in the [53] **underworld** _____. When Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and nothing grows. When she returns, [54] **spring** _____ comes with her.

There are [55] **different** _____ versions of this myth and of [56] **other** _____ Greek myths. But most of the stories give the same [57] **picture** _____ of the [58] **Greek** _____ gods. The gods were [59] **passionate** _____ and often [60] **fought** _____ with each other. They also took part in human [61] **battles** _____.

THE TROJAN WAR

The Trojan War was a major event in Greek mythology. The Greeks may [62] **actually** _____ have fought the [63] **Trojans** _____ in a long war. [64] **Myths** _____ that have a [65] **basis** _____ in history are sometimes called [66] **legends** _____.

According to Greek legend, a [67] **Trojan** _____ prince named Paris was [68] **asked** _____ to [69] **decide** _____ which goddess was most beautiful, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. [70] **Paris** _____ [71] **chose** _____ Aphrodite. She gave him the lovely Helen as a reward.

[72] **Helen** _____ was already married to a Greek prince. When [73] **Paris** _____ ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on Troy, [74] **where** _____ the Trojans lived. The fighting [75] **lasted** _____ ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to build a giant wooden horse. The [76] **Trojans** _____ took the [77] **horse** _____ within [78] **their** _____ [79] **strong** _____ city walls [80] **without** _____ [81] **realizing** _____ that Greek

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[95] **MONSTERS AND HEROES**

Some **creatures** in Greek myths were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a [96] **monster** with many heads. Other [97] **creatures** were half-human and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

Heroes were the only people who could kill the monsters. Greek [98] **heroes** were usually the children of gods and humans. Heracles was a son of Zeus. He fought the [99] **Hydra** and many [100] **other** [101] **creatures**.

Theseus was a hero who tracked the [102] **Minotaur** through a maze and [103] **killed** him. No one else had ever found [104] **their** way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following a thread through the twisting tunnels.

GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

Ancient [105] **Greek** writers like Euripides and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great [106] **plays**. Their [107] **plays** **influenced** later writers.

[108] **After** the ancient [109] **Romans** became the [110] **major** power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the [111] **Greek** gods new names and borrowed their stories. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. [112] **Roman** statues, paintings, and [113] **poetry** all used [114] **stories** from [115] **Greek** [116] **myths**.

Later, European artists looked back to Greece for [117] **inspiration**. Famous [118] **painters** and sculptors created their own versions of the gods. [119] **Musicians** and writers took ideas from Greek [120] **myths**. Even today, you can find the ancient [121] **stories** in [122] **movies** and computer games.

Spelling Practice

26. In each line of text below there is one word that has been misspelled. Circle the misspelled word and then write the correct spelling of the word on the line on the right side of the page.

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HOW EVERYTHING BEGAN

According to Greek myths, **their** was nothing but emptiness at first. Then came Gaea, the earth, who gave **birthe** to Uranus, god of the heavens. Gaea and **Urannus** had 12 children called Titans.

Uranus was afraid that the Titans would take **hiz** power. He was right to be afraid. The youngest **Titane**, Cronus, killed his father. Cronus then tried to **kil** his own children by **swallowing** them. He did not succeed. His youngest child, **Zeis**, **overcame** Cronus and helped the other children to escape. Zeus's brothers **wur** the gods Poseidon and Hades, and his sisters were the goddesses Hera, **Demetir**, and Hestia.

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GODS OF THA SEA AND THE UNDERWORLD

Not all the gods lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon had his **awn** kingdom of the sea. Sailors had to be careful **knot** to **offend** him. If angry,

- 1. GREEK _____
- 2. The _____
- 3. beings _____
- 4. they _____
- 5. Some _____
- 6. Other _____
- 7. floods _____
- 8. happen _____
- 9. such _____
- 10. Greek _____
- 11. EVERYTHING _____
- 12. there _____
- 13. birth _____
- 14. Uranus _____
- 15. his _____
- 16. Titan _____
- 17. kill _____
- 18. Zeus _____
- 19. were _____
- 20. Demeter _____
- 21. OF _____
- 22. The _____
- 23. on _____
- 24. children _____
- 25. the _____
- 26. and _____
- 27. not _____
- 28. their _____
- 29. THE _____
- 30. own _____
- 31. not _____

he **mit** start a storm.

Hades ruled the underworld—a place beneath Earth **were** the souls of the dead go. Hades **kidnapped** Persephone, the daughter of **Demetr**, goddess of grain. Demeter was **too** busy searching for her child too look after the harvest, and people began to **starv**.

Zeis ordered Hades to let Persephone go, but she had eaten a little of Hades's food. Because of that, she had to spend part of every **yer** in the underworld. **Wben** Persephone is with Hades, it is winter on Earth and **notheng** grows. When she returns, spring comes with her.

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Th Trojan War was a major event in Greek mythology. The Greeks may actually have fought the Trojans in **an** long war. Myths that have a **basis** in history **our** sometimes called legends.

According to Greek legend, **an** Trojan prince named Paris was asked to decide which goddess was most **beautiful**, Hera, Athena, or Aphrodite. Paris chose Aphrodite. She **gav** him the lovely Helen as a reward.

Helen was already married **too** a Greek prince. When Paris ran away with Helen, the Greeks **declared** war on **Troe**, where the Trojans lived. The fighting lasted ten years, until Athena helped the Greeks to **buid** a giant wooden horse. The Trojans took **tha** horse within their strong city walls **withowt** realizing that Greek soldiers were hiding inside it. At night, these soldiers came out of the horse. **Theee** opened the gates to Troy and let **tha** rest of the Greek army inside to destroy the city.

AE long poem, the Iliad, describes the Trojan War. A second poem, the Odyssey, tells **tha** adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus after the war was over. The writer of both poems is supposed to be Homer, a **peet** who probably lived around **tha** 8th century B.C. However, the legends are much older than that. Greek storytellers passed on the **tales fore** hundreds **off** years before they were written down.

MONSTERS AND HEVOES

Some **creatures** in Greek **miths** were terrifying beasts. The Hydra was a monster with many heads. Other creatures were **halfhuman** and half-animal. The Minotaur had the head of a **bul** and the body of a man.

32. **might**

33. **where**

34. **Demeter**

35. **to**

36. **starve**

37. **Zeus**

38. **year**

39. **When**

40. **nothing**

41. **Greek**

42. **the**

43. **and**

44. **human**

45. **WAR**

46. **The**

47. **a**

48. **are**

49. **a**

50. **beautiful**

51. **gave**

52. **to**

53. **Troy**

54. **build**

55. **the**

56. **without**

57. **They**

58. **the**

59. **A**

60. **the**

61. **poet**

62. **the**

63. **for**

64. **of**

65. **HEROES**

66. **myths**

67. **half-human**

68. **bull**

Heroes were the only people who **could** kill the monsters. Greek heroes were usually the children of gods and humans. **Heracles** was a son of Zeus. He **fought** the Hydra and many other creatures.

Theseus was a **hero** who tracked the Minotaur through a maze and killed **him**. No one else had ever found their way out of the maze, but Theseus succeeded by following **an** thread through the twisting tunnels.

GREEK MYTHS IN HISTORY

Ancient Greek writers like **Euripides** and Aeschylus turned some of the myths into great plays. Their plays **influenced** later **writers**.

After the ancient Romans **became** the major power of Europe, in the 1st century B.C., they gave the Greek gods new names and **borrowed** their **stories**. Zeus, for example, became the Roman god Jupiter. Roman **statues**, paintings, and poetry all used stories from Greek myths.

Later, European artists **looked** back to Greece for inspiration. Famous painters and **sculptors** created their own versions of the gods. Musicians and writers took ideas from Greek myths. Even today, you **can** find the ancient stories in **movies** and computer games.

69. **could**

70. **Heracles**

71. **fought**

72. **hero**

73. **him**

74. **a**

75. **HISTORY**

76. **Euripides**

77. **writers**

78. **became**

79. **borrowed**

80. **stories**

81. **statues**

82. **looked**

83. **sculptors**

84. **can**

85. **movies**